



Bountiful Ridge Golf Course, Bountiful, UT

-MISSION STATEMENT-

The Utah GCSA is dedicated to improving the superintendents' position in the golf industry through education, networking, advocacy and to grow the game of golf.

-VISION STATEMENT-

The Utah GCSA is a community of golf course management professionals and a go-to information source to enhance and grow the profession.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✓ April 13: Assistant's Meeting @ Riverside Country Club - **CANCELLED**
- ✓ April 27: Spring Network Meeting @ Bountiful Ridge Golf Course - **CANCELLED**
- ✓ May 8: Service Project @ Ronald McDonald House - **CANCELLED**
- ✓ May 19: First Green Field Trip @ Soldier Hollow Golf Course
- ✓ June 29: Highland Classic @ Wolf Creek Resort
- ✓ July 20: Assistant's Meeting @ Willow Creek Country Club
- ✓ August 17: Chapter Championship @ Willow Creek Country Club
- ✓ October 5: Assistant's Meeting @ Glenwild Golf Club & Spa



OFFICERS

- President: Alan Davis - Willow Creek Country Club
- Vice President: Nate James - Soldier Hollow Golf Course
- Secretary/Treasurer: Brian Roth, CGCS - Oquirrh Hills Golf Course

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- Wes York - Oakridge Country Club

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- Ross O'Fee, CGCS - Empire Turf, Inc.

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- Justin Woodland - The Barn Golf Club

NEWSLETTER EDITORS IN CHIEF

- Alan Davis & Kara Davis

UTAH GCSA OFFICE

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The highest compliment you can pay our sponsors is by purchasing from them. They support our association so let's support them!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We're all in this together

Fundamentally, I am a farmer. My crop just happens to be grass. Among other things, what I've learned in this industry is hard work. Got a cut? Put dirt in it, keep going. Feeling a little under the weather? Suck it up, quit whining. Nothing usually stands between me and a hard day's work. I'm just wired this way, for better or worse. What comes with that, I've found, is a tendency to isolate. My problems are only on my course. What I'm going through with hiring is only at WCCC. The battles I'm fighting are only on my battlefield. That was the case until March 18. Literally it shook me. Not intended to be a pun. That morning at 7:09 am, a 5.7 earthquake rumbled through the Wasatch Front and beyond. After assessing the situation and finding no damage, off I went with my wood chipper to chip up some branches. Just another day. That day I went home for lunch, and I won't forget the surprised look on my wife's face when she realized that I was only home for lunch, and that I was intending on finishing out the day at work. Yes, I realize I have a screw loose, but that was my intention. She made a suggestion, a simple one, that made me realize that my crew and I needed to be doing something more important than chipping branches. I sent everyone packing for the day, and it opened my eyes to something- we are all in this together, and what the "we" truly means.

"We" means your family. "We" means your management team and crew. "We" means your membership or customers. "We" means your professional colleagues. "We" means all humanity. During this time there are tons of ideas, and ways to help all around you. Take advantage of this and support others where you can. With schools closing, there may be added stresses at home. There may be an elderly neighbor you could grocery shop for. Donations to be made. Conversely, be willing to ask for help yourself. **Now is not a time to put your head down and just plow through. Now is a time to connect.**

If you have good ideas, share them. I have been amazed at all the great ideas that clubs locally and around the country have implemented to keep people safe while on course. To the right is a short list of some of the most prominent suggestions that clubs have implemented to protect from the spread of COVID-19. Additionally, I would like to promote the use of the member forum on the UGCSA website. On our homepage there is a link at the bottom of the page that can take you there. **We're all in this together. Let's work through this together.**

Alan B. Davis

"Touch point" elimination suggestions

- Single riders in carts – Removal of divot bottles / towels / coolers
- Elimination of on course ballwashers / coolers / divot bottle stations
- Flipping of cup upside down in greens
- Use of PVC or foam inside cup
- Split shifts for crew lunches
- Delayed arrival times for crew

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CHAPTER EXECUTIVE'S CORNER



Please know the Utah GCSA community is here and we care about the wellbeing of you and your family.

Here are a few reminders and items of interest...

1

Please visit our website and review our COVID-19 Golf Course Resources & Info. Currently, you can find a letter to Governor Herbert on behalf of the Utah Golf Industry, our response to COVID-19, as well as a list of helpful websites.

2

Membership applications have been mailed out to address you have on file. (Our year runs from April 1st—March 31st). Make it easier and join/renew online at www.utahgcsa.org. Please note that retired members and equipment managers ONLY need to fill out and submit the application portion.

3

In addition to the Utah GCSA Educational Scholarship, GCSAA is offering a \$1,500 Legacy Award for children and grandchildren of members. For more information, check out <https://www.gcsaa.org/education/scholarships>.

**Stay healthy & safe,
Natalie Barker, Chapter Executive**

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Q: Which health insurance providers will I have access to?

A: This varies state-by-state and some examples are United Healthcare PPO, Aetna PPO, Cigna PPO, etc. AHP partners with A+ rated carriers to provide you with peace of mind when selecting a plan.

Q: Is my family eligible for assistance as well?

A: Absolutely! All immediate family members (i.e. spouses and dependents) are eligible.

Q: What is the advantage of purchasing health insurance through AHP?

A: Unique plan designs, buying power, and superior customer service.

Q: Am I responsible for the premiums?

A: Yes, all members who purchase policies are responsible for 100% of the premiums. Payments are made directly to the insurance providers.

Q: Can I cancel a policy at any time?

A: Policies will remain active unless the individual (insured) notifies the provider of his or her desire to cancel. Cancellation will depend on the insurance provider and the type of policy.

Q: Can I purchase a policy through this program if I am already on my employer's policy?

A: You would need to wait until your employer's open enrollment or experience a qualifying event (birth/ adoption of child, change in employment, divorce, etc.) in order to make a change. Conversely, if you are enrolled in an ACA (on or off the marketplace) policy, you can switch to a policy through the Association if you are eligible.

Q: Will GCSAA receive access to any of my protected health information?

A: No, GCSAA does not come into possession or have access to any of your protected health information (PHI)

**For more information
or questions, please
contact Nate Scott
(nscott@gcsaa.org)**



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WINTER EDUCATION CONFERENCE RECAP

The 2020 winter conference is in the books and was another all-around great event. This event has always been known for its stellar lineup of speakers and this year was no different.

A special thanks to Mrs. Natalie Barker for the organization of the event, and to Hydro Engineering, again for sponsoring. Additional thanks to all that attended and all that helped behind the scenes.

The event, which took place on February 20th at Weber State Davis Campus, kicked off with an introduction of the 2020 UGCSA board. Thank you, in advance, for their involvement and interest in leading the association.



Sidnei Santos manning the Hydro Engineering booth



Paige Boyle, Presidential Doctoral Fellow at USU, taking a closer look at the Utah BMPs.

The first speaker of the morning was Ms. Paige Boyle. Paige led the group through BMP course implementation. This is intended to be the next step after each state has published their respective BMP manuals. The tool to customize the State BMP to fit your individual facility is available through the GCSAA national website.

CONTINUED...

WINTER EDUCATION CONFERENCE RECAP (CONT'D)

The second speaker of the morning was Mr. Ken Nice. Ken is the director of agronomy at Bandon Dunes Golf Resort in Bandon, Oregon. Ken educated the group on the management of fine fescue turf in the pacific northwest. He also led the group through the construction of the final course to be built on property, Sheep's Ranch, due to open in June. Mr. Nice had a wonderful presentation and many unbelievable pictures to accompany.



Ken Nice, Director of Agronomy, explaining the ins and outs of managing Bandon Dunes Golf Resort.



Gary Grigg, CGCS, sharing his expertise on leadership and how to enhance the superintendent's skills.

Mr. Gary Grigg, CGCS, had quite the inspirational and positive presentation! His information resonated with everyone in the room, no matter their level of profession. Mr. Grigg provided excellent information on budget tracking, budget formation, and committee presentation. He emphasized positivity and getting to know your crew on a personal level...keys that served him well throughout his incredibly successful career!

The Keynote speaker was none other than THE BRANDON KELLY! Mr. Kelly was extremely passionate and succeeded in energizing the room. His topics included how to get your staff moving towards a common goal, answering the “why” in your organization, and raising the bar to realize full potential.



Keynote speaker, Brandon Kelly, showing the group how to elevate efforts to reach excellence

CONTINUED...

WINTER EDUCATION CONFERENCE RECAP (CONT'D)

Below are some additional pictures from the conference. What a great meeting!

-Written By Alan Davis



Balloon pop



Attendees participated in a balloon pop activity and ended by getting the gold medal standing up on the "podium"



Winter Conference Group

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Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Rounds 4 Research has been postponed. The Rounds 4 Research program was designed to address a critical shortage in turfgrass research funding by auctioning donated rounds of golf online. The program is administered by the Environmental Institute for Golf, the philanthropic organization of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.



Information on the future date for the auction is forthcoming. Donations are still being accepted. **Learn more here** → <https://www.eifg.org/research/rounds-4-research>

An advertisement for Highland Golf featuring various golf carts and utility vehicles. At the top, logos for GEM, YAMAHA, and POLARIS are displayed. The central focus is a sign that reads 'Highland Golf Carts & Utility Vehicles 801-322-GOLF'. Below the sign, text provides contact information: 'Sales and Rentals, Parts and Service, New and Used Available. Our Salt Lake City location has moved to: 1379 W. 3500 S. 84119 www.highlandgolf.net'. The background shows several golf carts, and the bottom of the ad features a stylized mountain range graphic with green hills and grey peaks.

Utah GCSA Educational Scholarship

Be on the lookout for the 2020 UGCSA Annual Education Scholarship email. This will be sent out at the beginning of April and packets must be received by May 15th. Forms can also be found on the ugcsa.org website under the Membership tab.

Two (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in the “Superintendent / Assistant Superintendent” category and two (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in the “all members/family members” category. If there are not enough applicants in one category, award money can be awarded to the other category. (For example, if there were only one applicant in the “Superintendent / Assistant” category, three (3) applicants could be awarded in the “all members/family members” category so \$4,000 is always given).



We hope you find this benefit valuable and encourage you and your family to apply if you qualify!

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Superintendent, Teugega Country Club



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UDAF JAPANESE BEETLE ERADICATION PROPOSAL

Background



Japanese beetle *Popillia japonica* (JB) is an agriculturally destructive, invasive insect that is not established in Utah. The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) annually places detection traps in all of Utah's 29 counties to monitor for this pest. In 2019, numerous JB were detected via trapping in Salt Lake City's Northwest quadrant and South Salt Lake City's industrial district. UDAF is proposing an eradication plan to prevent the establishment of this pest.

Proposal details

UDAF plans to contract a licensed commercial pest control operator to apply a larvicidal treatment on areas identified as having a high-risk of JB establishment (see maps on the right). One application is scheduled during spring 2020; however additional treatments may be required later in the season, in subsequent years and in other areas. This application will be applied at no charge to residents and property owners.

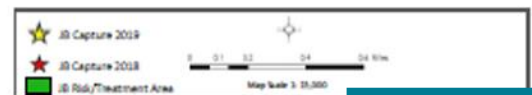
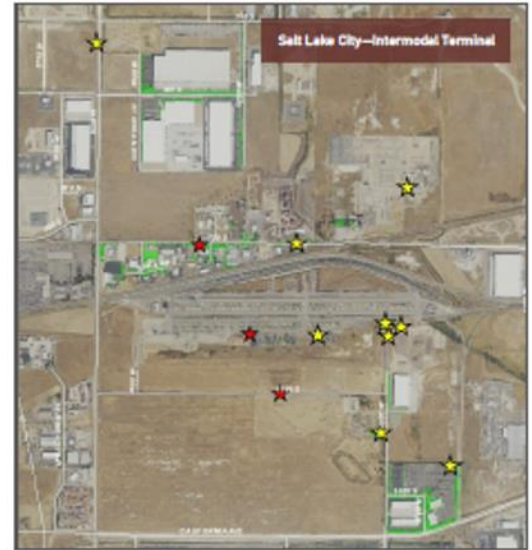
The spray project's strategy is to control beetles while they are underground in the larval stage. Therefore, the project will focus on treating turfgrass. However bare ground and soil may be treated under certain circumstances. Trees, shrubs and ornamental landscape plants will not be treated.

Safety and pollinator protection: UDAF has selected imidacloprid, a non-restricted use pesticide for the project. The pesticide is proven effective in controlling JB and it has low-mammalian toxicity (safe for people and pets). The pesticide is for sale to the general public and is a commonly used product.

Pesticide enforcement officials will supervise applications to ensure that all federal and state rules are followed, so that residents, water quality and the environment are protected. The state Apiary Program will notify nearby beekeepers in advance of applications and train the pest control company in best practices for pollinator protection.

Results of inaction

If action isn't taken, JB will likely establish in Utah. The state's \$128 million floriculture and \$17 million fruit industry will begin bearing the costs of JB control and damage. Pesticide use is likely to increase significantly in these industries, as well as among landscape managers and residents. Also, Utah's nursery industry will be quarantined by non-infested states. As a result, this industry will suffer costly export market restrictions on their products.



UDAF Japanese Beetle Eradication Proposal (cont'd)

2020 Project Timeline



Biology

During the feeding period and after mating, females intermittently leave plants, burrow about 3 inches into the ground—usually into turf—and lay a few eggs. This cycle is repeated until the female lays 40 to 60 eggs. By midsummer, the eggs hatch, and the young grubs begin to feed. Each grub is about an inch long when fully grown and lies in a curled position. In late autumn, the grubs burrow 4-8 inches into the soil and remain inactive all winter. In early spring, the grubs return to the turf and continue to feed on roots until late spring, when they change into pupae. In about two weeks, the pupae become adult beetles and emerge from the ground. UDAF eradication efforts will be targeting JB in the larval stage.



Image courtesy Thomas A. Shahan and the Oregon Department of Agriculture: IPPM



Larvae

- Lives in soil underneath turf.
- Ranges from 1/2 – 2 inches in length depending on age.
- White, c-shaped, with 3 pair of legs
- Difficult to distinguish from other “white grubs.”

Adult

- Averages 1/2 inch in length.
- Metallic green head and thorax; burgundy wings.
- Five white hairy patches on sides of abdomen; one pair on the back of the abdomen.

Contact information

Residents and property managers are encouraged to learn how to identify JB and report any sighting of the pest. For more information about JB and UDAF, visit: <http://ag.utah.gov/jberadication>



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by Mitchell E. Savage, Superintendent, Broken Tee Golf Course



Let's Fill Some Buckets

As a parent, one of my greatest joys is teaching my children important life lessons as they grow. Sometimes I am fortunate and find myself in the student role being taught incredible things by my six year old son, Max. After recently being taught about the concept of "filling other people's

buckets" by his first grade teacher, Mrs. Buchheit, Max came home and told his mom and me about an incredible way to approach treating those around us.

The concept of filling the buckets of others is based on the children's book, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today? A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids* by Carol McCloud. The idea is that everyone in the world carries around an invisible bucket that holds good thoughts and feelings. A person feels good when their bucket is "full" and bad when their bucket is "empty". If we do nice things for others we fill their bucket; negative things steal from their bucket. When we add to buckets we simultaneously add to our own bucket and when we steal from buckets we lose a little from our own bucket too. All day long we are either filling up or dipping into other buckets with what we say and how we act.

So how can we as golf course superintendents apply this simple concept and fill some buckets within our industry? Here's my approach: first, there's no better way to begin each day than by cheerfully and sincerely greeting staff members with a smile and "good morning". This also applies to any golf shop staff and guests I encounter while milling around the clubhouse area. I also encourage growth and networking opportunities for our assistant superintendent, equipment manager, and other members of our team. I exhibit and preach patience while training seasonal staff throughout the season. I carve out time in my schedule to meet, brainstorm, and game plan with affiliate partners and other

colleagues. I send thank you notes when those around me go above and beyond to help. Finally, I strive to be a go-to person for those around me. This was an incredibly valuable lesson I learned from Mr. Bob Farren, Director of Grounds at Pinehurst Resort. This doesn't mean I am a "yes man" for everything, but I do take pride in being a person that people know they can trust to step up and help when needed. Plus, it's a fantastic way to fill some buckets.

Within our association we always say, "You get out what you put in". I think the concept of filling buckets goes hand-in-hand with this phrase. The more engaged we are, the more opportunities we will have to fill some buckets. The more buckets we fill, the more fulfillment and purpose we will have in our careers. Thinking back on the last few years, it is easy for me to think of specific examples of how this has played out in my career and life. When I decided to become more engaged as an assistant superintendent, my goals were to create better connections with my colleagues and add value wherever possible. As I did, I was amazed by how much those around me wanted to reciprocate and help fill my bucket. Ultimately, my decision to get involved and add a spark however I could was what helped elevate me to the superintendent level.

At the conclusion of her book, McCloud encourages readers to begin each day by telling themselves, "I'm going to fill some buckets today" and ending each day by asking, "Did I fill any buckets today?" I believe it's in all our best interest to heed this advice. Cheers to a happy 2020 with a lot of overflowing buckets!





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Riley Stottern, CGCS, being inducted into the Utah Golf Hall of Fame



Riley L. Stottern, CGCS — the 50th President of GCSAA — has a personable style that's as open and memorable as the course he manages.

The Utah GCSA along with the governing bodies of Utah Golf are elated to announce Riley Stottern, CGCS, being inducted into the Utah Golf Hall of Fame. Riley's lasting influence on the members of this association and GCSAA will be felt for many years to come. His passion for the profession and willingness to serve are the focus to why he was chosen for this prestigious award. Mr. Stottern will be inducted on October 22, as part of the 2020 class. He joins UGCSA member and Fore Lakes Golf Course owner Todd Barker as one of two superintendents in the Utah Hall of Fame. In honor of the induction, we thought we'd throw it back to 1986 when Riley was elected president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Originally published by Golf Course Management, March 1986

For many Americans elsewhere in the country, the West remains first and foremost what it has always been physically - a land of extremes. Yet, in the past decade particularly, it has also become once again a refreshing source of revitalization for the rest of the country.

And over the past several years during his time on the Board of Directors, Riley Stottern has had a big hand in the revitalization of GCSAA. Thus, it's particularly fitting that he should have taken the helm of the Association in San Francisco during the Association's just concluded most successful Show ever - an event that culminated as a celebration of GCSAA's revitalization.

Clearly, the influence of the West is being felt in the Association as never before in recent times. What does the new President himself think of this and what it portends for the Association?

"Well, I think that the geographical shift of the Board of Directors - with two 1985-86 Board members moving to Texas, plus the election of a Californian to the 1986-87 Board - shifted a little bit of the power to the West. I'm sure most of us in the West enjoy that, because the Board has been overly balanced to the East. But most of the golf courses are in the East or Northeast, and we should probably have a lot of Directors from that area.

"Golf in the West has been, I think, underrated for a long time. Because of the limited number of golf courses in a large geographical area, we don't get as much attention as a lot of the courses in the East. And I think that we are equally prepared and as sophisticated as any of the golf courses anywhere."

While there may be technical differences in course demands and applicable conditioning procedures in use from East to West, the fundamental considerations are not as dissimilar as might be assumed.

"We have differences of management, in that their soils are low pH and they're using lime. As Gene Baston (GCSAA's Immediate Past President, who's spent much of his professional career managing courses in the East and the South) and I have often discussed, I don't know anything about lime - and he doesn't know anything about alkaline soils and gypsum and sulphuric acid to lower our pHs. I think basically turf maintenance and turf management are the same."

Visit utahgcsa.org to read entire article.

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EAB spread expected to reach entire North American ash tree range

February 20, 2020 | TurfNet | Posted By John Reitman

From one extreme to the other, people in the emerald ash borer's growing range are grousing, saying the tiny bug is becoming a bigger and bigger problem.



Emerald ash borer is now found in 35 U.S. states and five provinces in Canada. Photo by U.S. Forest Service

The ash borer's presence in the Northeast is expected to intensify this year, according to experts, and scientists on the western side of its range are introducing other non-native species of insects in hopes of controlling its spread and the damage it causes.

The spread of EAB since it first was found in the United States nearly two decades ago can be attributed to the lack of natural predators, but also to host susceptibility. Ash trees in EAB's native Asia have built up some immunity to the pest over time, while host trees in the U.S. have not.

"Several of us around the country have evaluated host susceptibility to EAB since we first detected it in 2002. We've used a variety of experimental designs to evaluate host susceptibility," said Nate Siegert, entomologist at U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, in a webinar hosted by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

"What we consistently find across these studies is that North American species of ash are more susceptible than Asian species of ash due to co-evolution of the host and the insect pest. European species tend to be intermediate in terms of susceptibility."

In Nebraska, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently introduced at least two species of non-native, non-stinging wasps in the fight against EAB. The wasps, which are native to Asia, are natural predators of EAB and parasitize the pests in their larval stage.

EAB entered the United States in 2002 aboard a Chinese cargo ship. Since then, it has spread to 35 U.S. states and five provinces in Canada and caused billions in damage, killing trees on golf courses, in parks and forest land.

EAB spread expected to reach entire North American ash tree range (cont'd)

Native to eastern Asia, the EAB borer burrows into ash trees as an adult where it lays its eggs. The larvae feed on the layer beneath the bark, disrupting the tree's vascular system and its ability to take up water and nutrients and eventually kill the tree.

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The ash borer's current range has increased dramatically, according to the web site emeraldashborer.info, and borders Colorado to the west, Texas and the Gulf Coast to the South, the Atlantic to the East and north all the way to Maine. It is an area that includes Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin. Florida, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon and Wyoming are on high alert.

It is found in Canada in Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Quebec.

The EAB web site is a news and information portal that is a cooperative effort between Michigan State, Purdue and Ohio State universities, the Michigan and Ohio departments of Agriculture; the Michigan, Indiana and Ohio departments of Natural Resources; the USDA Forest Service; the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS); and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

In recent years, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has been raising non-stinging parasitic wasps from Asia to help control EAB.

Four species of wasp have proven to be effective at parasitizing 50-90 percent of the target EAB ova or larvae, *Spathius galinae*, *Spathius agrili*, *Oobius agrili* and *Tetrastichus planipennisi*, the last two being the same species used recently in Nebraska.

Those parasitic predators lay their eggs on EAB larvae and when they hatch the juvenile wasps eat their way out, killing the host.

The wasps are raised at the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service facility in Brighton, Michigan.



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